

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A process for performing administrative functions connected with a sales-related database comprising the steps of:

receiving updated information for the sales-related database in a file  
5 configured in a predetermined format;

saving the configured file containing the updated information to the sales-related database; and

uploading the sales-related database to a web-based database using an  
administrative tool.

10 2. A system for performing administrative functions connected with a sales-related database comprising:

means for receiving updated information for the sales-related database in a  
file configured in a predetermined format;

means for saving the configured file containing the updated information to  
the sales-related database; and

means for uploading the sales-related database to a web-based database  
using an administrative tool.

15 3. The system of claim 2 wherein the administrative tool comprises means for  
transmitting a file to update information in the sales-related database.

20 4. A system for performing administrative functions connected with a sales-related database comprising:

a user login module for restricting access to the system;

a database access module for accessing data stored in the sales-related  
database and for reading one or more configured files; and

25 a file upload module for uploading data to the sales-related database and  
the system.

5. The system of claim 4 further comprising a report building module for  
presenting data in one or more predetermined formats and for generating one or  
more reports.

6. The system of claim 4 further comprising a broker operations module for updating broker information in the sales-related database.

7. The system of claim 4 wherein the file upload module further comprises a form generator to generate preconfigured forms for receiving one or more information updates.

5 8. The system of claim 7 wherein the file upload module further comprises a file upload servlet module for transmitting the information updates received in a preconfigured format to the database access module to be read as a configured file and to update the data stored in the sales-related database.

10 9. A process for performing administrative functions connected with a sales-related database comprising the steps of:

receiving login information from a client system;  
determining if the login information is valid;  
transmitting an administrative functions home page to the client system if the login information is valid;  
receiving a function link selection from the client system;  
determining which function link was selected;  
displaying an administrative function screen corresponding to the function link selected;

15 20 receiving updated information in a predetermined format; and  
updating the sales-related database to store the received updated information.

10. The process of claim 9 wherein the step of displaying an administrative function screen comprises displaying a broker list screen if a broker list update function is selected.

25 11. The process of claim 10 further comprising the steps of:

receiving a broker administrative function link selection;  
determining which broker administrative function link was selected;  
deleting a selected broker if a delete link was selected; and

displaying at least one broker information screen if a delete link was not selected wherein the step of receiving updated information includes a sub-step of receiving updated information entered in the at least one broker information screen.

5 12. The process of claim 11 wherein the at least one broker information screen includes at least one of a broker detail screen, a broker contact information screen and a broker public key loading screen.

10 13. The process of claim 9 wherein the step of displaying an administrative function screen includes a sub-step of displaying a rate change screen if a rate change function is selected.

14. The process of claim 13 wherein the step of receiving updated information includes a sub-step of receiving updated information entered in the rate change screen.

15 15. The process of claim 9 wherein the step of displaying an administrative function screen includes a sub-step of displaying a report screen if a report function is selected.

16. The process of claim 15 further comprising the steps of:

receiving report type selection information;  
receiving report fields selection information; and  
generating a report.

20 17. The process of claim 16 wherein the report type selection information comprises at least one of visitor tracking, quotes actually requested, actual deals made during a time period, e-mail information, and broker status sheet.

18. The process of claim 9 further comprising the steps of:

25 receiving a quote engine link selection; and  
determining which quote engine link selection was received;  
wherein the step of transmitting the administrative functions home page comprises transmitting a first type database administrative functions home page if a first database selection was received, and transmitting a second type database

administrative functions home page if a second type database selection was received.

19. A system of performing administrative functions connected with a sales-related database comprising:

5           means for receiving login information from a client system;  
          means for determining if the login information is valid;  
          means for transmitting an administrative functions home page to the client system if the login information is valid;  
          means for receiving a function link selection from the client system;  
10           means for determining which function link was selected;  
          means for displaying an administrative function screen corresponding to the function link selected;  
          means for receiving updated information in a predetermined format; and  
          means for updating the sales-related database to store the updated  
15           information.

20. A process for updating information in a sales-related database comprising the steps of:

20           receiving an access request;  
          determining if the access request is valid;  
          receiving updated information if the access request is valid;  
          verifying the received updated information; and  
          replicating the sales-related database.

25. The process of claim 20 wherein the step of verifying the received updated information includes a sub-step of updating the received updated information in an administrative area.

22. A computer readable medium, the computer readable medium storing computer readable code executable to perform a process for integrating one or more updates into a sales-related database over a network, wherein the integrating process comprises the steps of:

receiving updated information for the sales-related database in a file configured in a predetermined format;

saving the configured file containing the updated information to the sales-related database; and

5       uploading the sales-related database to a web-based database using an administrative tool.

23. A computer readable medium, the computer readable medium storing computer readable code executable to perform a process for integrating one or more updates into a sales-related database over a network, wherein the integrating

10 process comprises the steps of:

receiving login information from a client system;

determining if the login information is valid;

transmitting an administrative functions home page to the client system if the login information is valid;

15       receiving a function link selection from the client system;

determining which function link was selected;

displaying an administrative function screen corresponding to the function link selected;

receiving updated information in a predetermined format; and

20       updating the sales-related database to store the received updated information.

24. A computer readable medium, the computer readable medium storing computer readable code executable to perform a process for integrating one or more updates into a sales-related database over a network, wherein the integrating

25 process comprises the steps of:

receiving an access request;

determining if the access request is valid;

receiving updated information if the access request is valid;

verifying the received updated information; and

replicating the sales-related database.

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